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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA

Institute of Mining and Mineral Engineering, University of Science and Technology (GHA/74/018)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	April 1979
Starting date of project activities:	January 1978 (including previous assistance)
Planned completion date:	December 1981
To be executed by:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in association with the United Nations
Government implementing agency:	University of Science and Technology
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$837 300
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The School of Mines at Tarkwa began as an institute for the instruction and training of mine employees and was first proposed in 1949. The Government and the mining companies later co-operated in the building of the Tarkwa Technical Institute and classes commenced in November 1952.

2. In January 1960 a Diploma Course in Mining Engineering was introduced and the name of the Institute was changed to Tarkwa School of Mines in June 1961, so as to stress its relationship with the mining industry. Additional courses were added in 1963, 1972 and 1975.

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*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

3. The need for more advanced mining training and educational facilities in Ghana led to a request from the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, supported by the Ministry of Economic Planning, for external assistance. A joint consulting mission of the United Nations and UNESCO examined the request in October 1974 and recommended UNDP assistance to strengthen the then Tarkwa School of Mines.

4. At about the same time a committee was appointed by the Ministry of Economic Planning in 1975 to examine and formulate training proposals for the mining and mineral industries of Ghana and among its recommendations were: (a) establishment of an Institute of Mining and Mineral Engineering under the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, which would embrace the Department of Mining and Mineral Engineering at the University and the Tarkwa School of Mines; (b) redesignation of the Department of Mining and Mineral Engineering of the University as the School of Mines, Kumasi, and the Tarkwa School of Mines as the School of Mines, Tarkwa; (c) concentration by the School of Mines, Tarkwa, on training middle-level personnel and participation in the running of degree courses; and (d) concentration by the School of Mines, Kumasi, on the training at degree level in metallurgy and mineral processing, as well as on parts of the mining and geological engineering degree courses.

5. Preparatory assistance for the project[1/] was approved in 1977, and it was agreed to assign initially two international staff to the School of Mines, Tarkwa, for one year and six months to strengthen the teaching at the School and to advise the School authorities on academic matters affecting the future of mining education in Ghana. Assistance has now been approved for full-scale project operations.

II. Objectives and activities

6. The long-term development objective to which the project is related, is to increase the efficiency, output and profitability of mining operations in Ghana, by providing the industry with an adequate number of technically trained mining engineers and mining engineering technicians. The immediate objectives are to: (a) improve existing courses in mining and allied subjects at the School of Mines, Tarkwa; (b) establish a first degree course in mining engineering; (c) train counterpart personnel and provide schemes for the training of mining laboratory technicians; and (d) provide engineering laboratory facilities at Tarkwa both for educational purposes and to assist the technical staff employed in the mining industry of Ghana.

III. Inputs

7. Under the assistance now approved UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, the services of mining engineering experts, training and equipment.

8. To carry out the activities for which assistance is now approved, the Government of Ghana will provide counterpart staff, physical facilities and administrative support.

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1/ DP/PROJECTS/1621.

IV. Financial data

9. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	Previously approved	Present approval	Total approved
	$	$	$
Personnel	174 500	364 300	538 800
Training	-	58 000	58 000
Equipment	20 000	409 000	429 000
Miscellaneous	2 000	6 000	8 000
	196 500	837 300	1 033 800

10. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $2 105 300 in kind.

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